

June 25, 2023

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Assalamu alaykum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuh.

The BCMA family announces, with great sorrow, the passing of Brother Farouk Ellesseily, a remarkable individual and one of the founding members of the BC Muslim Association (BCMA).

إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

Indeed, to Allah we belong and to Him we shall return

In 1966, Brother Farouk was one of the founding members and first officer of the Association. As a young engineer from Egypt, Brother Farouk took his responsibility very seriously and continued to serve the Muslim community in BC through BCMA until his death. Brother Farouk's contributions were numerous and profound, leaving a lasting impact on the lives of those he touched.

In March of 1969, Br. Farouk achieved a significant milestone as he became the first BCMA director to embark on the sacred journey of Pilgrimage to Mecca.

On June 11, 1970, Br. Farouk made history by being appointed as the first Muslim marriage officer in the province of British Columbia. Through this role, he facilitated countless marriages within the Muslim community, spreading love, unity, and the blessings of matrimony.

He was a pioneer and blessed with many firsts as a BCMA official. Brother Farouk led the first Eid prayer, first BCMA director to perform Hajj, first Muslim marriage officer, first marriage officer to solemnize an Islamic marriage and first person to perform a Janazah in BC.

Br. Farouk Ellesseily's involvement extended to the commemoration of the BCMA's 50th anniversary. He played a vital role in the creation of the association's anniversary book, showcasing the rich history and achievements of the Muslim community in British Columbia. His contributions ensured that future generations would have a testament to the progress and growth achieved through the collective efforts of the BCMA.

Furthermore, Br. Farouk served as a member of the BCMA Board of Trust Affairs for many years was a valued committee member of the UBC Spirit of Islam Exhibition, contributing to the promotion of understanding and dialogue between different faiths and cultures and committee member of Masjid Al Salaam Construction. His presence and contributions fostered an environment of unity and respect, breaking down barriers and fostering a sense of harmony within the broader community.

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Br. Farouk Ellesseily was an exceptional leader, selflessly sacrificing his time and effort to enhance the Muslim community in British Columbia. His dedication and unwavering commitment to his faith were evident in every aspect of his life, serving as an inspiration to all who knew him. His absence will be deeply felt, and his legacy will forever be cherished.

We pray that Allah (swt) embraces him in His infinite mercy and grants him the highest levels of Jannah. We express our deepest condolences to his family and loved ones during this difficult time, and we stand together as a community to remember the exceptional life he led.

*In lieu of flowers, meals and gifts, the family kindly asks that donations be made in honour of Farouk Ellesseily to the British Columbia Muslim Association.*

<https://www.thebcma.com/paypal/subscriptions.html>

*With gratitude,  
The Ellesseily Family*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Muhammad Asad Gondal', is written over a faint, dotted rectangular box.

Muhammad Asad Gondal  
President